



Northgate Community Center and Park PAT Meeting #4 Oct. 13, 2003 Meeting Notes

PAT Members Present: Shawn Olesen, Frank Lufkin, Barbara Maxwell, Marilyn Firlotte, Michelle Rupp, Velve Maye, Jeanne Hayden

PAT Members Not Present: Sue Geving, William Lowe, LeAnne Hendrix, John Cash

Audience Present: Jan Brucker

Staff Present: Tim Motzer Parks Project Manager; Joelle Ligon, Public Relations Specialist; Carolyn Law, Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs; Nikki McClure, 1% For Art Artist for the Community Center

7:06 p.m. Welcome

- Tim welcomed everyone. Team members introduced themselves.
- The group approved the Meeting Notes from the Sept. 29, 2003 meeting
- Tim announced that PAT member Joel Tufel has chosen to resign from the committee.

7:11 p.m. Comments from Visitors

- There were no visitors.

7:12 p.m. Consensus Discussion from e-mails

- The PAT exchanged no e-mails between the Sept. 29, 2003 meeting and the Oct. 13, 2003 meeting.

7:13 p.m. Introduction of the Artist

- Carolyn discussed with the PAT the process through which public art is created. The artist is charged with striking a balance between designer and community needs. She said there will be a somewhat formal process between the artist and the community.
- Nikki is familiar with some of the broader elements of the Northgate community at large. She has been and will go in the future to various community centers to get an idea of what's happening at them.
- Nikki will get input from the PAT tonight and then she'll develop three ideas. She'll consult with the community to see which one seems to float to the top.
- The budget for the project is \$25,000 and final approval rests with the Public Art Committee, which checks for durability, longevity, budget and feasibility. The

budget was derived from the 1% For Art money that came from the entire Community Center Levy. From that, certain projects were identified for art funding. The Library has a \$35,000 1% For Art Project, and the Park, funded through the Pro Parks Levy, does not have an art project associated with it.

- To make the most of the budget, the art project will attempt to merge with the construction phase of the project.
- Nikki narrated a slide show that included a number of her various projects, both public and private.

7:45 p.m. The PAT describes Northgate

- When asked to describe the community, PAT members gave the following information:
 - More urban than suburban
 - Rejuvenating
 - Transitioning – a mix of people who have lived in the neighborhood combined with newcomers.
 - Walking community
 - Very few sidewalks
 - Connections – pathways
 - Unusual birds that frequent the area
 - Counting on this project to change the suburban and urban environment in Northgate
 - Popular coffee shops help build communities as places where people can gather and socialize
 - Haller Lake – rowboats on the lake
 - Outdoor activities
 - Madison Pool
 - One of the original community centers in the City is Haller Lake Community Club
 - Links to Thornton Creek
 - Mall is a regional entity
 - Neighborly place: a place where you can walk your dog
 - Traffic is bad, not horrible
 - When senior citizens go to walk the mall, they have to be careful when crossing the major streets because of heavy traffic

- Focus on children at the community center
- Make the community center friendly and welcoming
- Northgate has one of the lowest crime rates in the city
- Very low homeowner turnover
- Fairly disjointed community
- Diversity: kids, the elderly, singles, marrieds
- Community Center should be a magnet of the community, should draw people in from near and far
- Nikki asked the PAT what they saw for the future of Northgate. The responses were:
 - Preserve opportunities for people to come together
 - Create opportunities for connections among people
 - Enjoy a sense of community in Northgate
- Further, the PAT asked for the art to be realistic, not abstract, engaging, something that challenges you to think, something that can be touched.

8:25 p.m. Final Meeting Wrap-up

- The group decided that they would like to meet again on Monday, Nov. 3, 2003 to review the changes made to the Community Center and Park design by The Miller-Hull Partnership.

Contact Information:

Tim Motzer, Project Manager
 Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation
 Planning and Development Division
 800 Maynard Avenue S. 3rd Floor
 Seattle, WA, 98134-1336
 (206) 684-7060
tim.motzer@seattle.gov

Maureen A. O'Neill, NE Park Manager
 N E Support Parks and Recreation Densmore Headquarters
 8061 Densmore Ave.
 Seattle, WA 98103
 (206) 684-7096
maureenA.o'neill@seattle.gov